

Appln No. 09/703,264

Amdt date February 3, 2006

Reply to Office action of January 13, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 - 39 are pending in this application. The independent claims 1, 11, 22, 33, and 37 are amended.

Claims 1 - 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1 - 39 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as the invention. Both rejections are directed to the independent claims and the dependent claims are rejected based on their independent base claims. In view of the amendments to the independent claims 1, 11, 22, 33, and 37, it is respectfully requested that the above rejections are withdrawn and the claims are allowed.

Amended claim 1 includes, among other limitations, "an adaptive filter ... having filter coefficients adapted to cancel a combination of an electrical and an acoustical echo in a near end signal by modeling in parallel the electrical echo comprising at least a portion of the primary telephony signal and the acoustical echo comprising at least a portion of the secondary audio signal" (Emphasis added). As amended, claim 1 overcomes the enablement and definiteness rejections and is now allowable.

According to the Office Action, figures 7 and 8 of the Application disclose a single adaptive filter that models

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different echo paths in parallel while there is no cancellation being done in parallel. (Office Action, item 3, page 3). Accordingly, claim 1 is amended to recite "an adaptive filter ... modeling in parallel the electrical echo ... and the acoustical echo." (Emphasis added). The amendment is supported throughout the Application, for example, in figures 7 and 8 and page 15, lines 28 - 30 of the specification. As amended, claim 1 overcomes the 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, rejection and is now allowable.

According to the Office Action, figures 7 and 8 of the Application disclose a single adaptive filter that models different echo paths in parallel and combines them into a single signal that is then used to cancel echoes in summer 302. (Office Action, item 3, page 3). Accordingly, claim 1 is amended to recite "an adaptive filter ... having filter coefficients adapted to cancel a combination of an electrical and an acoustical echo in a near end signal." (Emphasis added). The amendment is supported throughout the Application, for example, in figures 7 and 8 and page 14, lines 14 - 20 of the specification. As amended, claim 1 overcomes the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, rejection and is now allowable.

Independent claim 11 is amended to recite "wherein the adaptive filter models in parallel the acoustic echo and the electrical echo and the filter coefficients are adapted to cancel a combination of the acoustic echo and the electrical echo." (Emphasis added). As amended, claim 11 is enabled and definite and overcomes the rejections.

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Independent claim 22 is amended to recite "wherein the adaptive filter models in parallel the acoustic echo and the filter coefficients are adapted to cancel a combination of the acoustic echo and the electrical echo." (Emphasis added). As amended, claim 22 is enabled and definite and overcomes the rejections.

Independent claim 33 is amended to recite "adaptively filtering the reference signal using filter coefficients adapted for canceling a combination of an acoustic echo and an electrical echo by modeling in parallel the acoustic echo and the electrical echo." (Emphasis added). As amended, claim 33 is enabled and definite and overcomes the rejections.

Independent claim 37 is amended to recite "filtering means for adaptively filtering the reference signal, the filtering means having filter coefficients to cancel a combination of an acoustic echo and an electrical echo, wherein the adaptive filter models in parallel the acoustic echo and the electrical echo." (Emphasis added). As amended, claim 37 is enabled and definite and overcomes the rejections.

The remaining claims 2 - 10, 12 - 21, 23 - 32, 34 - 36, and 38 - 39 depend from the allowable independent claims directly or indirectly and therefore include all the limitations of their base claims and additional limitations therein. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable, as being dependent from an allowable independent claim and for the additional limitations they include therein. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of these claims.

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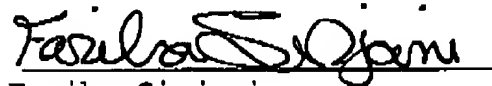
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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 - 39 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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